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Dated: October 12, 2004

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

(Tia B. Zimmerman)

Docket No.: 404172000300  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Ilaria CAPUA et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: PURIFIED SUBFRAGMENT CODIFYING  
FOR NEUROAMINIDASE, RECOMBINANT  
NEUROAMINIDASE AND ITS USE IN  
ZOOPROPHYLAXIS

**FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

MS PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicant respectfully requests entry on this Preliminary Amendment for the above-captioned patent application.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 3 of this paper.